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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,159	04/12/2001	Barbara A. Van Dyke	FORE-82	1518

7590 11/25/2002
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EXAMINER

HAMMOND, BRIGGITTE R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 11/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/833,159

Applicant(s)
Van Dyke

Examiner
Brigitte R. Hammond

Art Unit
2833



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 11, 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7, 8, 10-13, and 15-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 10-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on Apr 12, 2001 is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on Jul 11, 2002 is: a) ☐ approved b) ☒ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(q and r) because it is unclear to the examiner exactly what elements the lead lines and arrows are pointing to.

Correction is required.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crane in view of applicant's admitted prior art. Regarding claims 1-4, Crane et al. disclose a power entry ground panel 36 comprising an input terminal block 10 comprising a support block 38, a mating connection 42, an output connector 28, a terminal pin 26, and a filtering layer 40. Crane does not disclose the terminal block receiving "150 amps of 48 V DC power". However, applicant discloses on page 5, line 25, that "150 amps of 48 V DC power" is a "traditional Method of operation". Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to *modify*

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the panel of Crane providing 150 amps of 48 V DC power via an AC/DC converter since it is a traditional method of operation as stated by applicant.

Regarding claim 10, Crane et al. disclose a power entry ground panel 62 comprising, a mating connection 42, a terminal pin 26 adapted to be directly connected and in contact with a mating connection, a support block 38, and a filtering layer 40. Crane does not disclose the terminal block receiving "150 amps of 48 V DC power". However, applicant discloses on page 5, line 25, that "150 amps of 48 V DC power" is a "traditional Method of operation". Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to *modify* the panel of Crane providing 150 amps of 48 V DC power via an AC/DC converter since it is a traditional method of operation as stated by applicant.

Regarding claims 11-13, the method claims are inherent to the device.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 7 (and the claim that depends therefrom) is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form **including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.**

5. Claims 15-17 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

6. In response to applicant's argument that Crane is not designed for receiving "150 amps of 48 V DC power", a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a

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structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. See *In re Casey*, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967). Also, *There is insufficient structural relationship* recited between the elements in the claims to support the block/ terminal pin receiving 150 amps and 48 V DC power. In response to applicant's argument that "Crane does not teach the support block supporting and isolating the terminal pin", the examiner draws applicant's attention to figures 4-6 which shows the support block supporting and isolating the terminal pin" (clearly shown in the support block of figure 5).

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

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8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Balon et al. 5,411,416 is cited for a panel connector with a mating connection.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brigitte R. Hammond whose telephone number is (703) 305-0032.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.


The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached on (703) 308-2319. Papers may be faxed directly to Group 2833 at (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Brigitte R. Hammond

November 19, 2002


P. AUSTIN BRADLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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